

I. **IN THE CLAIMS**

Please enter the following claims which replace the claims now on file.

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for initiating and dispensing an incendiary from a line of series connected incendiaries, said apparatus ~~in comprising~~ comprising:

a feed mechanism for advancing a line of series connected incendiaries to a dispensing location; an injection device for injecting a substance into an incendiary as said incendiary is advanced to said dispensing location, said injected substance reacting exothermically with another substance in said incendiary; and, a cutter for cutting said incendiary from said line of series connected incendiaries; wherein said feed mechanism advances said incendiary, after injection with said substance and cutting from said line, to said dispensing location where said incendiary is dispensed from said apparatus.

2. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said feed mechanism comprises at least one recess, each recess shaped to seat a respective incendiary.

3. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said feed mechanism comprises a plurality of recesses, each recess shaped to seat a respective incendiary, and wherein adjacent recesses are spaced by a distance substantially equal to the distance between adjacent series connected incendiaries.

4. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1-3~~ claim 2 further comprising a drive system for driving said feed mechanism.

5. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 4 wherein said drive ~~The~~ system is coupled to said injection device for moving said injection device between an extended position where said injection device penetrates said incendiary, and a retracted position where said injection device is spaced from said incendiary.

6. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~4 or~~ 5 wherein said drive system

is coupled to said cutter for moving said cutter between an extended position where said cutter cuts an incendiary from said line and a retracted position where said cutter is spaced from said line.

7. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 6 wherein said injection device and cutter are mounted on a slide and said slide is reciprocated by said drive system between said extended position and said retracted position.

8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 7 wherein said slide is supported on a rail and said drive systems reciprocates said slide along said rail.

9. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 6-8~~ claim 6 wherein a slot is provided between respective adjacent recesses in said feed mechanism over which said line extends when being advanced to said dispensing position, and said cutter is juxtaposed to extend into said slot to cut said line when moved to its extended position.

10. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 6-9~~ claim 6 further comprising a retaining member for retaining an incendiary in a respective recess while said injection device and said cutter are moved from their respective extended positions to their respective retracted positions.

11. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 10 wherein said injection device extends through said retaining member when said injection device is moved to said extended position.

12. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 11 wherein said retaining member is a plate having a first portion which faces an incendiary when at a location where said injection device penetrates said incendiary.

13. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1-12~~ claim 1 further

comprising a pump for pumping a dose of said substance to an incendiary via said injection device.

14. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 13 wherein said pump is driven by said drive system.

15. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 14 wherein said pump is a peristaltic pump.

16. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 4-15~~ claim 6 wherein said drive system comprises an intermittent gear arrangement including a driver arranged for continuous rotation and a follower supporting said feed mechanism wherein for a first portion of a revolution of said driver, said driver engages said follower to rotate said follower by a fraction of a revolution, and for a remaining portion of the revolution of said driver, said follower is locked against rotation.

17. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said driver is coupled to said slide for reciprocating said slide along said rail.

18. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~16 or~~ 17 further comprising a link pivotally coupled at one end to said driver and pivotally coupled at an opposite end to said slide.

19. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 5-18~~ claim 6 further comprising a park system for biasing said injection device to said retracted position.

20. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 19 wherein said park system biases said driver to rotate to a position where said driver drives said slide to a location commensurate with said injection device being in said retracted position.

21. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1-20~~ claim 1 further comprising a housing in which said feed mechanism, cutter and injection device are housed, said housing having an inlet through which said line of series connected incendiaries can enter said housing and a chute through which incendiaries are dispensed.

22. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 1-21~~ claim 1 further comprising an extinguishing system for extinguishing an incendiary into which said substance is injected.

23. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 16-22~~ claim 16 wherein said intermittent gear arrangement is a geneva gear.

24. (New) A method of initiating and dispensing an incendiary from a line of series connected incendiaries, the method comprising:

feeding a line of series connected incendiaries to a dispensing location;

injecting a substance into an incendiary as the incendiaries are fed to said dispensing location, said injected substance reacting exothermically with another substance in said incendiary;

cutting the incendiary injected with the substance from said line of series connected incendiaries; and,

when the incendiary injected with the said substance reaches the dispensing location, dispensing the incendiary from said apparatus.

25. (New) A method for initiating and dispensing an incendiary from a line of series connected incendiaries, said method comprising:

providing a feed mechanism for advancing a line of series connected incendiaries to a dispensing location;

providing an injection device for injecting a substance into an incendiary as said incendiary is advanced to said dispensing location, said injected substance reacting

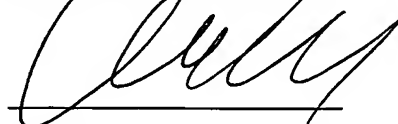
exothermically with another substance in said incendiary; and,

providing a cutter for cutting said incendiary from said line of series connected incendiaries;

wherein said feed mechanism advances said incendiary, after injection with said substance and cutting from said line, to said dispensing location where said incendiary is dispensed from said apparatus.

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DATE

Respectfully Submitted,



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Date/Time: May 6, 2005 (2:54pm)

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